Message Text

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PAGE 01 PALERM 00762 040624Z ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-15 TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-05 CEA-01 PA-02 PRS-01 /096 W

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FM AMCONSUL PALERMO
TO AMEMBASSY ROME
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2254
RUFLSKA/AMCONSUL NAPLES 0118

UNCLAS PALERMO 0762

E.O. 11652: NA TAGS: PINT, IT

SUBJECT: REACTION TO BLUMENTHAL STATEMENTS IN ROME

REF: PALERMO 0553

- 1. COVERAGE OF SECRETARY BRUMENTHAL'S REMARKS DURING ROME VISIT IS CHARACTERISTICALLY OBJECTIVE AND LEAN IN CATANIA DAILY LA SICILIA WHICH HEADLINED NOVEMBER 1 STORY: "BLUMENTHAL ASKS ITALY TO MAKE ADDED EFFORT DOLLARS COULD ARRIVE BUT GREATER ECONOMIC STABILITY IS NEEDED...."
- 2. HEADLINE AND OPENING PARAGRAPH IN PALERMO'S GIORNALE DI SICILIA HOWEVER, ARE GUILTY OF SOME OF SAME HYPERBOLE WHICH CHARACTE-RIZED PAPER'S COVERAGE IN PAST OF BUSINESS INTERNATIONAL VISIT TO ITALY (REFTEL). HEADLINE, FOR EXAMPLE, READS: "BLUMENTHAL ASSURES THE U.S. WILL INVEST IN ITALY". LEAD PARAGRAPH CONTINUES: "THERE IS A GOOD PROBABILITY THAT THE FORTHCOMING VISIT TO ITALY OF A DELEGATION OF AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN WILL SIGNAL THE ADVENT OF SUBSTANTIAL DOLLAR INVESTMENTS IN OUR COUNTRY. THE U.S SECREATARY OF THE TREASUR Y,

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PAGE 02 PALERM 00762 040624Z

BLUMENTHAL, CONCLUDING HIS VISIT TO ROME, ANNOUNCED THAT THE BUSINESS

MEN'S MISSION, AGREED UPON LAST SUMMER DURING MR. ANDREAOTTI'S VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES, WILL BE VERY IMPORTANT AND WILL BEAR FRUIT".

3. WHILE GIORNALE DI SICILIA'S COVERAGE IS SUBSEQUENT PARAGRAPHS GETS CLOSER TO REAL IMPORT OF WHAT SECREATARY BLUMENTHAL HAD TO SAY,

WE WILLDOUBTLESS CONTINUE TO EN	COUNTER FALSE EXPECTATIONS FROM MANY
WHO DO NOT READ PAST HEADLINES.	COLLINS

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Subject: REACTION TO BLUMENTHAL STATEMENTS IN ROME

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